## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Ekwuribe et al.

Application Serial No.: to be assigned

Filed: concurrently herewith

For: Methods of altering the binding affinity of a peptide to its receptor

Date: November 19, 2003

Mail Stop PATENT APPLICATION Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to the examination of the above-identified application, please enter the following amendments and consider the following remarks.